

REMARKS

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. Specifically, the Office Action states that the specification does not disclose that $d2 > d1 - d2$, which was recited in canceled claim 9, and now in claims 10, 13 and 21. The support for this feature is provided on page 41, line 25 to page 42, line 4 of the subject specification. The specification discloses that $d1$ is equal to $4.0\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ and that $d2$ is equal to $3.3\text{ }\mu\text{m}$. Accordingly, $d1 - d2$ equals $0.7\text{ }\mu\text{m}$. Therefore, $d2$ ($3.3\text{ }\mu\text{m}$) is greater than $d1 - d2$ ($0.7\text{ }\mu\text{m}$). Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2-4, 6 and 7 stand rejected under § 102(b) on the basis of EP 0 884 626. These claims have been cancelled.

Claims 9, 18-20, 22 and 23 stand rejected under § 102(b) on the basis of Murouchi or Carrington. These claims have been canceled.

Claim 28 stands rejected under § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Murouchi. Claim 28 has been canceled.

The Examiner's allowance of claims 8 and 24-27 is acknowledged and appreciated.

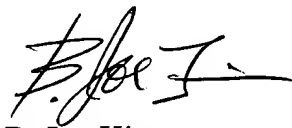
Claims 5, 10-17 and 21 are indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 5, 10, 13 and 21 have been amended to include features of their respective independent claims. Accordingly, the amended claims and their respective dependent claims are now believed to be allowable.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants believe that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The examiner should call Applicants' attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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